	State/Union Territory	Amount
23	National Capital Territory of Delhi	121.66
24	Orissa	446.68
25	Pondicherry	29.28
26	Punjab	1884.82
27	Rajasthan	508.09
28	Sikkim	4.87
29	Tamil Nadu	2000.23
30	Tripura	33.44
31	Uttar Pradesh	1740.02
32	West Bengal	880.22
	Total	15953.83

Written-off Advances amount realised by Nationalised Banks

318. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1220 given in the Rajya Sabha on 3.12.96 and state:

(a) the amount realised by each of the nationalised banks out of the written-off advances during the last three years; and

(b) how many debts over Rs. one crore are written-off and names of such borrowers, bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) RBI's data reporting system does not generate information in the manner asked for.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Comparative figures of Customs revenue collection

319. SHRIMATI VEEN A VERMA: Will the
Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the customs revenue collected and the extent of revenue collected as arrears of dues for the previous years during 1996-97 so far, and the comparative figures for 1995-96 and 1994-95;

(b) how much of customs revenue collection is locked-up in litigation; and

(c) how much of such dues are estimated to have been lost due to under-invoicing of imports in connivance with officials concerned; and how many such cases of connivance have been detected this year indicating the amount of duty involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The amount of Customs revenue collected during 1996-97 (up to 31.1.97) is Rs. 34812 crore. The amount of revenue collected as arrears of dues for the previous years during 1996-97, up to 31.1.97 is Rs. 16.85 crore and the comparative figures for 1994-95 and 1995-96 are Rs. 7.16 crore and Rs. 11.90 crore respectively.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No case of loss of revenue due to under-invoicing of imports in which there has been connivance with officials, has been reported this year.

Steps to check Frequent Withdrawals of Provident Fund money

320. DR. RANBIR SINGH:
SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Govemment are aware that the Central Government employees have made frequent withdrawals from their Provident Fund deposits during the last three financial years especially employees working in Delhi;

(b) whether such withdrawals have been invested in various fixed deposits schemes floated by private and public sector enterprises offering higher rate of interests;

(c) whether Govemment propose to revise the rate of interest on deposits made in Provident Fund to check frequent withdrawals;

(d) whether Govemment also propose to offer some incentives to employees on yearly basis; and

(e) if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The Central Government employees are allowed withdrawals from Provident Fund for the various purposes specified under Rules 15 & 16 of GPF & CPF Rules respectively. The official withdrawing the amount is required to

indicate the purpose of withdrawal and use the amount for the specified purpose only. There is ho provision under the Rules for making withdrawals for investing the money in various deposit Schemes floated by the private and public sector enterprises.

(c) to (e) The 5th Pay Commission has recommended payment of interest @ 13% per annum as against the present level of 12%. At present there is no proposal to offer incentives to employees to keep balances in their Provident Fund Account.

Package of Measures for Capital Market

321. SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Govemment have announced a package of measures for the capital market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether necessary safeguard measures have been taken to ensure that India's foreign debt remained within manageable limit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Certain measures were taken recently for the further development of the capital market. These, *inter-alia,* relate to the promulgation of the Depositories Related Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997, approval of a scheme of lending of securities and adoption by the Board of SEBI of the Bhagwati Committee Report on substantial acquisition of shares and takeovers.

(c) and (d) The debt management strategy being followed by the Govemment contains necessary safeguards for ensuring that India's foreign debt remains within manageable limits. Some of the important features of the strategy relate to sustaining a high growth rate of exports, encouraging non-debt creating capital inflows and keeping the maturity structure as well as the total amount of commercial debt under control.

Procedure to Monitor Fiscal Deficit

322. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there exists a procedure which enable Govemment to monitor the fiscal deficit quarterly;

(b) if so, details of the existing procedure;

(c) how far the fiscal deficit deviated from the estimated during 1996-97 (April to December, 1996)

(d) the factors responsible for increase in the fiscal deficit; and

(e) what stringent steps are being taken to contain fiscal deficit at 4 percent of the GDP?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) The fiscal deficit is being monitored on monthly basis. The actual (provisional) upto Dec.'96 was Rs. 41344 crore against BE 1996-97 projection of Rs. 62266 crore. The figure upto Dec. '96 works out to 66% of BE 1996-97 which is less than proportionate.

(c) The fiscal deficit of Rs. 62266 crores in BE 1996-97 works out to *5%* of GDP. The variations if any in the current financial year will be indicated in this forthcoming budget.

Foreign Banks in India

323. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the foreign banks allowed entry in India since the initiation of liberalisation of economy from mid-1991; and

(b) the total amount of profits they have been repatriating in foreign exchange during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) According to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) the following foreign banks have been allowed entry in India since initiation of liberalisation of economy from mid 1991:—

SI N	Name of the Bank	Country
1.	JNG Bank NV	Netherlands
2.	Chase Manhattan Bank	U.S.A.
3.	State Bank of Mauritius	Mauritius
4.	Development Bank of Singapore Ltd.	Singapore
5.	Dresdner Bank AG	Germany